


Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: March 11, 2011
TO: Mayor Setti D. Warren
FROM: Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development
RE: Friday Report 
CC: Board of Aldermen
Robert Rooney, Chief Operating Officer

This weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

Monday 3/14/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities, 6:30 p.m., Cafeteria (Basement level of City Hall)• Zoning & Planning Committee, 7:45 p.m., Room 202
Tuesday 3/15/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land Use Committee – Public Hearing/Working Session, 7:45 p.m., Aldermanic Chamber/Room 222
Wednesday 3/16/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Preservation Committee, 7:00 p.m., Newton Senior Center (345 Walnut Street, Newtonville)• Urban Design Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 203
Thursday 3/17/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brookline-Newton-Watertown-Waltham Homelessness Consortium - Cancelled• Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 202

- **Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities:** The Mayor's Committee will hold its monthly meeting **Monday, March 14th** at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Cafeteria. Agenda items include consideration of the approval of the minutes from the January 10th and February 14th meetings; a presentation from Dina Rosenbaum from the Carroll School for the Blind; a presentation from SEB LLC, developer of 112-116 Dedham Street; a report on projects currently being funded by CDBG Access funds; a discussion concerning the proposed elimination of DeafBlind Community Access Network; a discussion about additional handicap parking in West Newton and Waban Village and curb cuts/crosswalks at the intersection of Braeland Street and Cypress Street. The public will also have an opportunity to report on accessibility issues of noncompliance in the City. **Contact Kathleen Cahill at 617.796.1125 or kcahill@newtonma.gov.**
- **Zoning & Planning Committee:** The Committee will hold a working session on **Monday, March 14th** at 7:45 p.m. in Room 202. The agenda includes: **#235-10**, Ald. Baker and Yates on behalf of the Newton Historical Commission requesting updates to Sec. 22-50 to establish a minimum period of delay for full demolition of structures found to be preferably preserved; and to extend the existing period of delay, as has occurred in other communities, for structures proposed for full demolition if the structure is found to be preferably preserved; **#294-03**, Ald. Baker, Yates, Johnson, and Mansfield requesting analysis and discussion of possible remedies for demolition of modest housing and replacement with oversized structures that are out of character with the surrounding neighborhood, and **#365-06** Ald. Yates requesting the establishment of an education program for realtors concerning properties in historic districts. **Contact Jennifer Molinsky at 617.916.9744 or jmolinsky@newtonma.gov.**
- **Land Use Committee Public Hearing/Working Session:** The Committee will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, March 15th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber. The agenda includes the following: **#7-11**, Charles River Country Club, Inc., petition to extend a nonconforming use to create a short game practice area for its members and guests in a currently unimproved portion of an existing golf course (no buildings or structures are involved) at **483 Dedham Street**; **#46-11**, 122 Shornecliffe Road LLC., petition to construct two retaining walls greater than four feet in order to construct a new by-right garage below grade outside the front setback, (to replace an existing legally nonconforming garage located within the front setback) at **122 Shornecliffe Road**; **#47-11**, Charles L. West, petition to expand the kitchen into the side yard and extend a porch from the rear entrance to improve access for persons with disabilities which would increase the floor area ratio from .27 to .28, decrease rear yard setback

from 15.4' to 12.5' and increase the lot coverage from 20.3% to 20.8% at **95 Fountain Street; #48-11**, Douglas Gentile/Teegee LLC., petition to legalize an existing garage repair shop at **441 Watertown Street**. In addition, there may be a **Working Session** in Room 222 regarding **95 Fountain Street** and **441 Watertown Street** immediately following the Public Hearings. **Contact Eve Tapper at 617.796.1141 or etapper@newtonma.gov.**

- **Community Preservation Committee:** The Committee's next meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 16th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Newton Senior Center (345 Walnut Street, Newtonville). The agenda includes the current housing proposal for **112-116 Dedham Street** (working session & possible funding vote), and several Historic Newton projects: **Historic Burying Grounds** (working session & possible funding vote); **Jackson Homestead Exterior Preservation** (request for change of scope); **Museum Archives & Durant-Kenrick Homestead** (updates on funded projects). Full agendas and proposals are available online from www.newtonma.gov/cpa, or **contact Alice Ingerson at 617.796.1144 or aingerson@newtonma.gov.**
- **Urban Design Commission:** The Commission's next meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 16th** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 203. The agenda includes sign review for an awning sign at **1187 Centre Street**, a wall sign at **217 California Street**, a wall sign at **134 Rumford Avenue**, and wall/directional signs at **47 Boylston Street**. **Contact Derek Valentine at 617.796.1123 or dvalentine@newtonma.gov.**
- **Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, March 17th** at 7:30 p.m. in Room 202. Items on the agenda include: **74 Longwood Road**, request to discharge the mortgage security/lien; **41 Chestnut Hill Road**, request to replace windows and doors; **170 Suffolk Road**, request to change the house to a Colonial Revival style and add new roof shape, entry portico, mudroom addition, deck, garage doors, windows, and chimney; **33 Kingsbury Road** request to construct a new detached garage, alter driveway, and add walkway; **29 Lee Road**, request to build a rear addition and new entry porch; **41 Old Orchard Road**, request to add a dormer and rear addition. **Administrative Discussion:** Approval of meeting minutes. **Contact Brian Lever at 617.796.1129 or blever@newtonma.gov.**
- **Help us keep our City clean!** In an effort to curb clutter on our roadsides and in our village centers, the Planning Department would like to familiarize residents with the rules that pertain to the posting of temporary signage in the City. Temporary signs, such as those posted for yard sales and services offered, are limited by Newton Zoning Ordinance to five square feet in size and one sign per premises. Such signs can be posted a maximum of three days preceding the event and should be removed within twenty-four hours after the event. Flyers and other notices, such as for lost pets and advertisements, cannot be placed on public property, such as on utility poles, street furniture, or within 8 feet of the pavement edge without the approval of the Commissioner of Public Works. Flyers on windshields often blow off and can also cause litter. Thank you for spreading the word and for helping to keep our City clean and attractive!
- **Middlesex Conservation District Spring Tree, Shrub and Perennial Sale:** The Sale will be held on **Friday, April 22nd** from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and **Saturday, April 23rd** from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the 4H Fairgrounds, 51 South Chelmsford Road, Westford, MA. All items can be pre-ordered through March 31st and picked up on the sale days. Early ordering is encouraged, as all items are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. To place an order, download an order form from our website at www.middlesexconservation.org or call 978-692-9395 to request a brochure. The Middlesex Conservation District is a not-for-profit environmental agency whose purpose is conservation of natural resources in Middlesex County. **Contact Frances Gillespie, Plant Sale Coordinator at 978.692.9395.**